

Application No. 09/496,061
Amendment filed with RCE

Customer No. 01933

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-45 (Canceled).

46. (New) An endoscope image sensing apparatus comprising:

an image sensing device for imaging an object to obtain an image signal, and outputting the image signal;

5 a storage section for storing a plurality of color matrices each corresponding to a plurality of color tones for displaying an observation image of the object on a display section;

a selecting section for selecting a color matrix from the plurality of color matrices for displaying the observation image
10 in a color tone desired by an observer; and

a computing section for performing computation using the selected color matrix to convert the image signal output from the image sensing device to a color component signal.

47. (New) The apparatus according to claim 46, wherein the image sensing device comprises a color CCD.

48. (New) The apparatus according to claim 46, wherein the selecting section comprises a selecting switch provided in a signal processing device for processing the image signal.

Application No. 09/496,061
Amendment filed with RCE

Customer No. 01933

49. (New) The apparatus according to claim 48, wherein the selecting switch is provided on a front portion of the signal processing device.

50. (New) An endoscope image sensing apparatus comprising:

an image sensing device for imaging an object to obtain an image signal, and outputting the image signal; and

5 a signal processing device for processing the image signal, said signal processing device comprising:

a storage section for storing a plurality of color matrices each corresponding to a plurality of color tones for displaying an observation image of the object on a display
10 section;

a selecting section for selecting a color matrix from the plurality of color matrices for displaying the observation image in a color tone desired by an observer; and

a computing section for performing computation using
15 the selected color matrix to convert the image signal output from the image sensing device to a color component signal.

Application No. 09/496,061
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51. (New) An endoscope image sensing method
comprising:

imaging an object to obtain an image signal, and outputting
the image signal;

5 accessing a plurality of color matrices each corresponding
to a plurality of color tones for displaying an observation image
of the object on a display section;

10 selecting a color matrix from the plurality of color
matrices for displaying the observation image in a color tone
desired by an observer; and

performing computation using the selected color matrix to
convert the output image signal to a color component signal.